

COMBINED ARMS COMMAND AND CONTROL UPGRADE SYSTEM

DESCRIPTION

The Combined Arms Command and Control Trainer Upgrade System (CACCTUS) will upgrade the existing five (5) Combined Arms Staff Trainers (CAST) facilities and provide a more realistic training opportunity for MAGTF staff elements in the areas of fire support employment, coordination, and integration. CACCTUS will provide interoperability between all CAST



sites, Marine Corps Ground training systems and support joint training exercises. In addition, the upgrade will allow the development of mission plans, rehearsal of developed plans, tools to support after action reporting and debriefing and be interoperable with operational C4I tactical data systems. All CACCTUS components will be integrated through a common network architecture and provide the ability to accomplish distributed and integrated team training. When CACCTUS reaches FOC in FY 2009 it will provide the exercising forces with the following training capabilities: (1) Using C4I operation equipment, develop mission plans and execute tactics; (2) display of target engagement

battle space geometry in relation to friendly forces and opposing forces using 2D and 3D visualization of the operational area; (3) the ability to realistically perform command and control voice/data tactical tactics; (4) pre-brief and after action review; (5) mission rehearsal; (6) deployable training and (7) interoperability between all CAST sites; other Marine Corps training systems and joint training systems.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

This capability will enhance MAGTF unit readiness by enabling staff to “train the way they fight” and by providing tools that enable team leaders to assess their unit’s strengths and weaknesses. The system will provide an opportunity to perform joint training in accordance with the DoD Training Transformation Initiative.

PROGRAM STATUS

The Marine Corps initially awarded a contract for this upgrade in September 2001 for the investigation of training technologies that have potential for transition into the CACCTUS project. In August 2002, a competitive contract was awarded for the integration and demonstration of the selected technologies. Prototype development and proof of concept demonstrations will occur throughout FY 2004 and FY 2005 to validate the system being developed to meet the identified training capabilities.

PROCUREMENT PROFILE:

Quantity:

FY 04

2 prototypes

FY 05

2 prototypes

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER

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